

a safe & secure
Tasmania

2021-22

Crime Statistics Supplement



2021-22

Crime Statistics Supplement



The Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management Crime Statistics Supplement 2021-22 provides a detailed breakdown of the offences reported or becoming known to police in the financial year ending 30 June 2022. Five-year trend data are included for many of the measures.

Prior to 2012-13 the Crime Statistics Supplement was published as a part of the *Department of Police and Emergency Management Annual Report*. From 2012-13 the Supplement has been removed from the Annual Report and published as a separate document.

Offences Recorded and Cleared: Tasmania

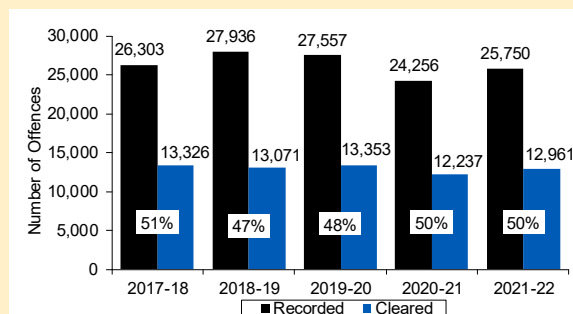
Total Offences increased by 6% (1,494 offences) to 25,750 offences in 2021-22, following a 12% reduction in 2020-21. The 2021-22 figure remained below the previous five-year average (26,698).

Contributing to this rise in crime were increases of 6% in Offences Against Property, 7% in Offences Against the Person and 19% in Fraud and Similar Offences. This increase also coincided with lessening COVID-19 restrictions across the state.

The clearance rate for Total Offences remained constant at 50% in 2021-22.

The chart provided shows that crime has fluctuated between 24,000 and 28,000 annual offences in the last several years. This followed a period of crime decreasing each year between 2005-06 and 2012-13. Changes from the previous year are outlined below for offences recorded within the four major offence categories.

TOTAL OFFENCES: TASMANIA
OFFENCES RECORDED AND CLEARED/
PERCENTAGE CLEARED



Number of Offences Recorded

Major Offence Categories	2020-21*	2021-22	% Change
A. Offences Against the Person	4,963	5,320	7.2%
B. Offences Against Property	18,147	19,173	5.7%
C. Fraud and Similar Offences	729	868	19.1%
D. Other (Miscellaneous) Offences**	417	389	-6.7%

* Revised 1 August 2022.

** Excludes Breaches of Family Violence Orders and Breaches of Restraint Orders.

Number of Offences Recorded and Cleared

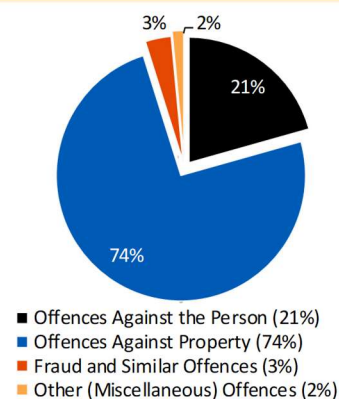
Major Offence Categories	2020-21*			2021-22		
	Recorded	Cleared	% Cleared	Recorded	Cleared	% Cleared
A. Offences Against the Person	4,963	4,225	85.1%	5,320	4,540	85.3%
B. Offences Against Property	18,147	7,201	39.7%	19,173	7,570	39.5%
C. Fraud and Similar Offences	729	490	67.2%	868	540	62.2%
D. Other (Miscellaneous) Offences	417	321	77.0%	389	311	79.9%

* Revised 1 August 2022

The Total Offences 2021-22 pie chart, enclosed, illustrates the distribution for the four major offence categories.

Offences Against Property accounted for 75% of offences with Stealing (excluding Stolen Motor Vehicles), Injure/Destroy Property and Burglary (buildings and conveyances) accounting for the majority of Total Offences recorded.

TOTAL OFFENCES 2021-22



A. Offences Against the Person

Offences Against the Person rose by 7% to 4,882 in 2021-22, following a equivalent rise in the previous year. This indicator continues to experience a general upward trend. The 2021-22 result was above the previous five-year average (4,643).

The most notable increases for this category were Total Robbery (83%) and Sexual Assault (19%).

The clearance rate for Offences Against the Person remained constant at 85% in 2021-22.

Assault (excluding Sexual Assault and Assault a Police Officer) accounted for the majority of Offences Against the Person (64%) while the combination of Murder/Attempted Murder/Manslaughter accounted for only 0.3%. This is reflected in the distribution provided.

Assault (excluding Assault a Police Officer)

There were 3,407 assaults recorded in 2021-22, compared with 3,166 the previous year, an 8% increase. The 2020-21 result was above the previous five-year average (2,953).

In 2021-22, over half the assaults (56%) were committed at a residential location. 16% were committed in the street/footpath and 10% at a retail location.

The majority of assaults did not involve a weapon (83%), 4% involved a knife and 2% involved a firearm.

The alleged offender was known to the victim in 74% of assaults. Females accounted for 53% of Assault victims.

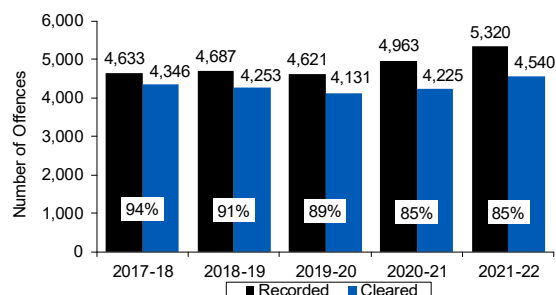
Sexual Assault

The number of sexual assaults recorded increased by 19% (90 offences) from 484 in 2020-21 to 574 in 2021-22. The 2021-22 result was above the previous five-year average (284). The number of sexual assaults recorded can vary significantly from year to year due the proportion of victims who report the offence to police, and the reporting of historical sexual assaults. 38% of sexual assaults reported in 2021-22 were committed a year or more before they were reported, some occurring several decades ago. This statistical increase also occurred in an environment where sexual assault has had a high profile in national media.

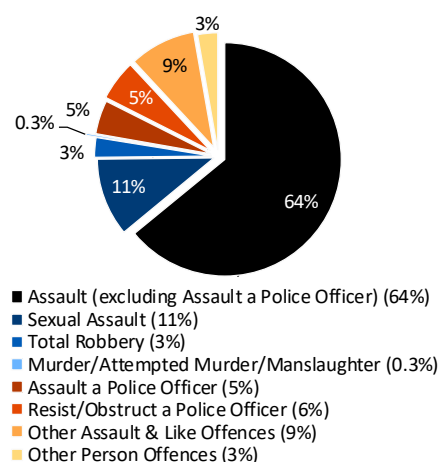
Sexual assaults reported in 2021-22 occurred most commonly at residential locations (76%). 97% of sexual assaults were committed without a weapon and females accounted for 85% of Sexual Assault victims.

The sexual assault clearance rate increased from 63% in 2020-21 to 73% 2021-22.

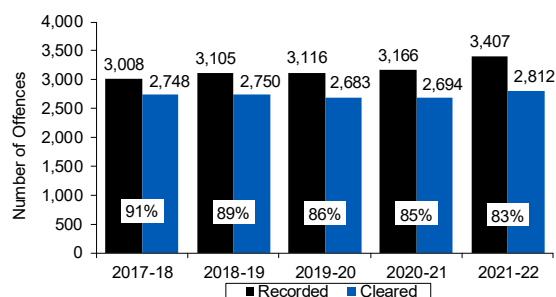
OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON: TASMANIA
OFFENCES RECORDED AND CLEARED/
PERCENTAGE CLEARED



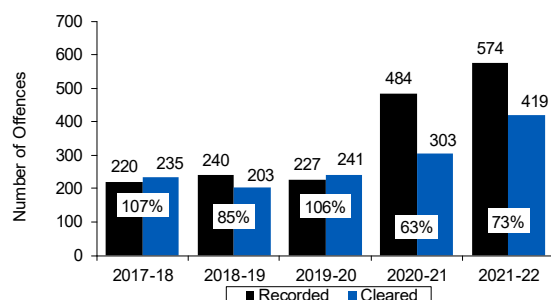
OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON 2021-22



ASSAULT (EXCLUDING ASSAULT A POLICE OFFICER):
TASMANIA - OFFENCES RECORDED AND CLEARED/
PERCENTAGE CLEARED



SEXUAL ASSAULT: TASMANIA
OFFENCES RECORDED AND CLEARED/
PERCENTAGE CLEARED



Total Robbery

Total Robbery offences increased by 65 offences (83%) from 78 in 2020-21 to 143 in 2021-22. This followed a reduction by 26 offences the previous year. The 2021-22 result was above the previous five-year average (95). The scope of Robbery was increased in July 2021 with the introduction of the summary offence Stealing With Force.

Armed and Aggravated Armed Robbery accounted for 26% of total robberies in 2021-22 and rose from 36 recorded in 2020-21 to 37 in 2021-22 (1 offence). Other Robbery (formerly Unarmed Robbery) fell by 11 offences in 2021-22.

Armed Robbery offences recorded in 2021-22 were committed at the following locations:

Locations	Offences
Street/Footpath	14
Residential	10
Retail	10
Recreational	1
Transport	1
Other Location	1

Knives were the predominant weapon type used in armed robberies (46%), with firearms used in 30% of armed robberies.

There were also 11 Carjacking or Aggravated Carjacking offences recorded in 2021-22.

Murder

There were 7 murders recorded in 2021-22, an increase of 1 offence from the previous year. The offender was known to the victim in 5 (71%) of the murders. In 2021-22, the clearance rate for murder was 86%.

B. Offences Against Property

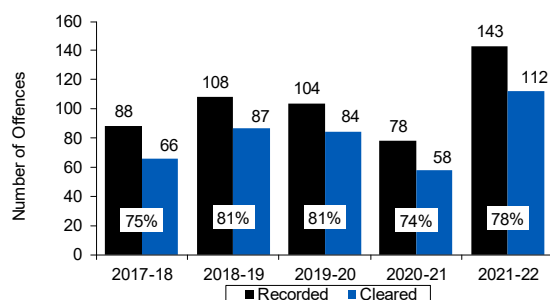
Offences Against Property increased by 6% (1,026 offences) from 18,147 recorded in 2020-21 to 19,173 in 2021-22. This followed a 16% reduction the previous year. The 2021-22 result was below the previous three-year average (20,805).

This change was mostly driven by increases in Stealing (excluding Stolen Motor Vehicles) (9%), Stolen Motor Vehicles (19%) and Injure/Destroy Property (10%). The increases also coincided with lessening COVID-19 restrictions across the state.

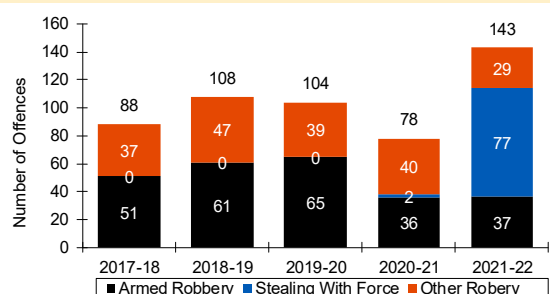
The clearance rate for Offences Against Property fell slightly from 40% in 2020-21 to 39% in 2021-22.

Stealing (excluding Stolen Motor Vehicles) and Injure/Destroy Property offences accounted for the majority of Offences Against Property (64%), as can be seen in the pie chart provided.

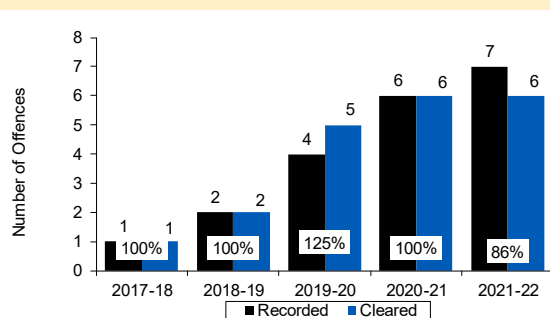
TOTAL ROBBERY: TASMANIA
OFFENCES RECORDED AND CLEARED/
PERCENTAGE CLEARED



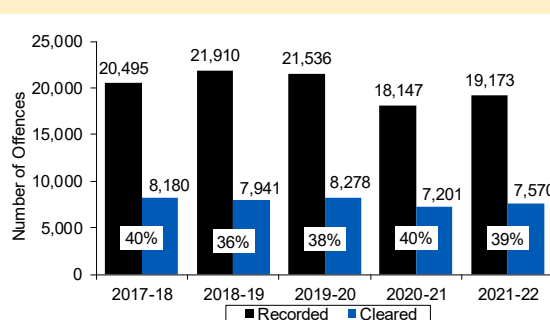
TOTAL ROBBERY: TASMANIA
OFFENCES RECORDED



MURDER: TASMANIA
OFFENCES RECORDED AND CLEARED/
PERCENTAGE CLEARED



OFFENCES AGAINST PROPERTY: TASMANIA
OFFENCES RECORDED AND CLEARED/
PERCENTAGE CLEARED



Burglary

Burglary-buildings offences reduced by 10% (264 offences) in 2021-22, following a 20% decrease the previous year. The 2021-22 figure of 2,371 was lower than the previous five-year average (3,174). Aggravated Burglary comprised 35% of Burglary-buildings offences in 2021-22.

The most common locations for Burglary-buildings in 2021-22 were residential locations (64%) and retail locations (14%).

In the same period Burglary-motor vehicles/other conveyances offences reduced by 4% (53 offences) to 1,137 offences, following a 26% fall the previous year. The 2021-22 figure was lower than the previous five-year average (1,445).

The most common locations for Burglary-motor vehicles/other conveyances offences were residential locations (46%) and in the street (23%).

Stealing-general

Stealing-general comprises stealing offences not connected with Burglary and excludes Shoplifting and Stolen Motor Vehicles.

Stealing-general in 2021-22 decreased by 4% (96 offences) to 2,177 offences, following a 21% decrease the previous year. The 2021-22 result was below the previous five-year average (2,859).

The most frequent locations for Stealing-general were residential locations (34%), followed by retail locations (28%).

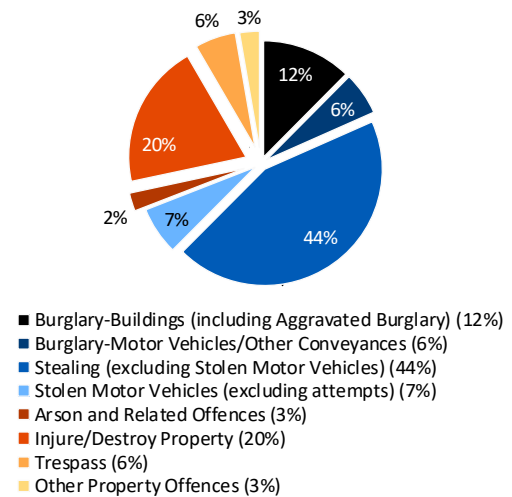
Stolen Motor Vehicles (excluding attempts)

Stolen Motor Vehicles in 2021-22 rose by 19% (207 offences) to 1,272 offences, following a 10% reduction the previous year. The 2021-22 result was above the previous five-year average (1,160).

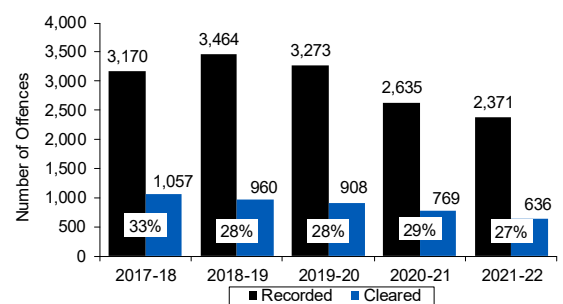
The recovery rate for Stolen Motor Vehicles decreased from 74% in 2020-21 to 70% in 2021-22.

Motor vehicles were most frequently stolen from residential locations (56%) and in the street (25%).

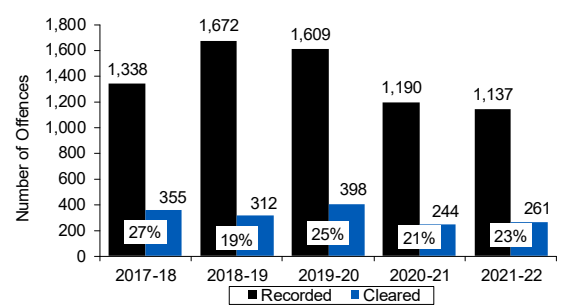
OFFENCES AGAINST PROPERTY 2021-22



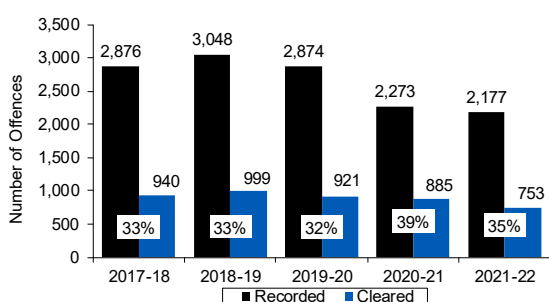
BURGLARY-BUILDINGS: TASMANIA
OFFENCES RECORDED AND CLEARED/
PERCENTAGE CLEARED



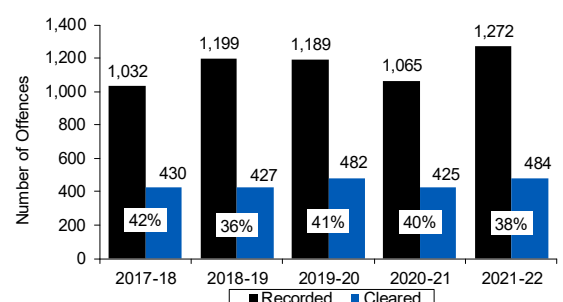
BURGLARY-MOTOR VEHICLES/OTHER CONVEYANCES
TASMANIA - OFFENCES RECORDED AND CLEARED/
PERCENTAGE CLEARED



STEALING-GENERAL: TASMANIA
OFFENCES RECORDED AND CLEARED/
PERCENTAGE CLEARED



STOLEN MOTOR VEHICLES: TASMANIA
(EXCLUDING ATTEMPTS) OFFENCES RECORDED AND
CLEARED/ PERCENTAGE CLEARED



Arson and Related Offences

There were 490 Arson and Related Offences recorded in 2021-22, an increase of 94 offences from 2020-21. The 2021-22 result was higher than the previous five-year average (458).

The 2021-22 distribution for Arson and Related offences is detailed in the pie chart provided.

Injure/Destroy Property

The number of Injure/Destroy Property offences recorded rose by 10% (347 offences) in 2021-22, following a 6% rise the previous year. The 2021-22 figure was above the previous five-year average (3,316).

Injure/Destroy Property offences recorded in 2020-21 occurred most frequently at a residential location (50%), followed by a retail location (12%).

C. Fraud and Similar Offences

There were 868 Fraud and Similar Offences recorded in 2021-22, a 19% (139 offences) increase from the 729 offences in 2020-21. The 2021-22 figure was lower than the previous five-year average (882).

The clearance rate for Fraud and Similar Offences reduced from 67% in 2020-21 to 62% in 2021-22. The distribution for Fraud and Similar Offences in 2021-22 is detailed in the pie chart provided.

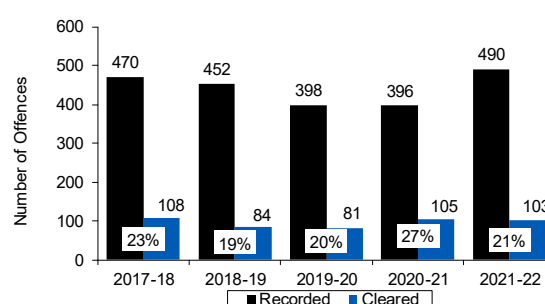
D. Other (Miscellaneous) Offences

There were 389 Other (Miscellaneous) Offences recorded in 2021-22, compared with 417 the previous year, a decrease by 28 offences. The 2021-22 figure was above the previous five-year average (368).

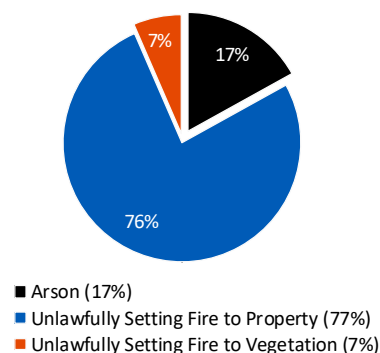
The most significant change in this category was a decrease of 27 offences in Public Order Offences. The 2021-22 distribution for Other (Miscellaneous) Offences is detailed in the pie chart provided.

In 2020-21, there was an 80% clearance rate for Other (Miscellaneous) Offences, a rise from 77% in 2020-21.

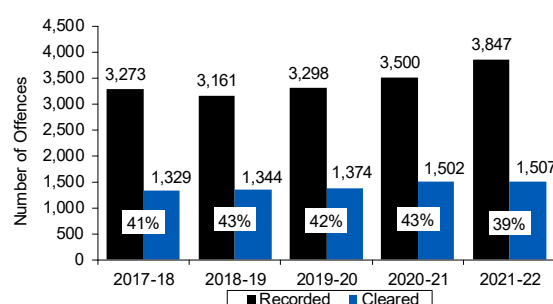
ARSON AND RELATED OFFENCES: TASMANIA
OFFENCES RECORDED AND CLEARED/
PERCENTAGE CLEARED



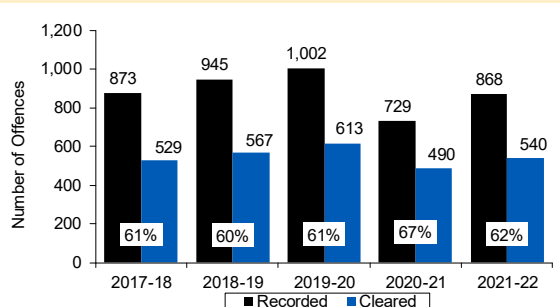
ARSON AND RELATED OFFENCES 2021-22



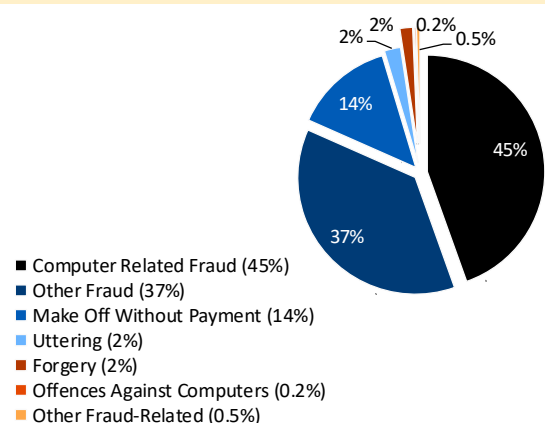
INJURE/DESTROY PROPERTY: TASMANIA
OFFENCES RECORDED AND CLEARED/
PERCENTAGE CLEARED



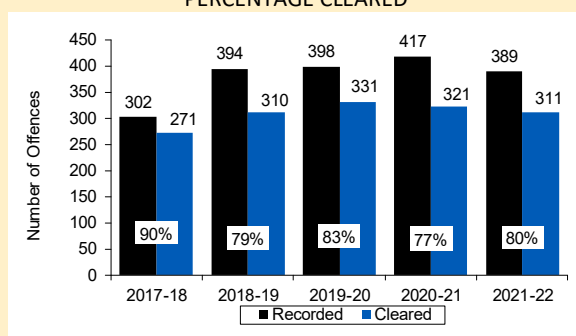
FRAUD AND SIMILAR OFFENCES: TASMANIA
OFFENCES RECORDED AND CLEARED/
PERCENTAGE CLEARED



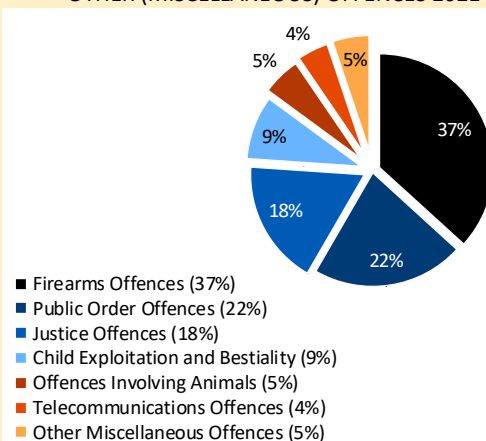
FRAUD AND SIMILAR OFFENCES 2021-22



OTHER (MISCELLANEOUS) OFFENCES: TASMANIA OFFENCES RECORDED AND CLEARED/ PERCENTAGE CLEARED



OTHER (MISCELLANEOUS) OFFENCES 2021-22



Explanatory Notes

The statistics referred to in this supplement have been derived from offences reported to or becoming known to police during the financial year ending 30 June 2022. All 2020-21 statistics have been revised as at 1 August 2022. Cleared offences from years prior to 2020-21 have been revised in some cases.

Offences are broadly classified into the following four major offence categories:

- Offences Against the Person
- Offences Against Property
- Fraud and Similar Offences
- Other (Miscellaneous) Offences

Offences Recorded

Offences 'recorded' refers to both offences which have been reported by the public and offences which have been detected by police in the course of their duties and/or criminal investigations.

Offences Cleared

The term 'cleared' used by police, refers to the solution of a crime, and not to the trial by court and final disposition.

Offences 'cleared' refers to all offences which have resulted in one of the following outcomes:

- Court proceedings: a police action against a person to facilitate a court appearance to answer charges.
- Community conference: a person is directed to attend a meeting with the victim and other persons affected, where their behaviour and its consequences are discussed. A conference may impose one or more undertakings.
- Formal caution: a person is formally warned that engaging in the specified conduct is against the law and that there are various sanctions that can be applied by the police to prevent and punish such conduct.
- Informal caution: a person is informally warned that engaging in such conduct is against the law.
- Infringement notice: a person is issued an infringement notice (excluding cautions) with a statutory penalty, which may incur a fine (from 2015).
- Infringement notice caution: a person is issued an infringement notice as a caution, in which case the statutory penalty is not applied or enforced (from 2015).
- Instruction of the prosecuting authority: the prosecuting authority deems that there is no likelihood of conviction, for example death or other absence of the victim.
- Lapsed: time limitations or a statute bar have meant that an identified offender could not be proceeded against.
- Unable to proceed: one or more offenders have been identified but no action is able to be taken due to: diplomatic immunity, incompetence of the alleged offender(s), death of the alleged offender, imprisonment or age of the offender.
- Unfounded: upon attendance or investigation, police are unable to establish whether or not the reported offence occurred.

- Withdrawn: the complainant/victim does not wish for the matter to proceed, and will not cooperate further with police, even though an offence has occurred. The victim's decision not to proceed is made before any proceedings against an identified offender commence (revised at the state and national level in 2014).

Tasmania Police employs the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) in the recording of offences. The NCRS was developed by police statisticians from each Australian jurisdiction in conjunction with the National Crime Statistics Unit of the Australian Bureau of Statistics, and was implemented in 2008. Under the NCRS Tasmania Police utilises the following four offence statuses that identify recorded offences that will not be counted in police statistics:

- No crime: it is clear that an incident did not constitute an offence, either because the offence is found to have no foundation or the victim/complainant admits to, or is suspected of, having made a false report.
- Transferred to another State or Territory: an offence has occurred but is outside the responsibility of the police jurisdiction to which the report has been made.
- Additional offence: the offence unnecessarily duplicates a different offence recorded on the same report.
- Duplicate offence: the offence is found to be a duplicate of another offence.

Data Sources

Statistics have been extracted from the Offence Reporting System 2 of the Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management on 1 August 2022. 2020-21 data have been revised.

Reference Period


Statistics are compiled according to the date an offence becomes known to police, which is not necessarily the date an offence was committed, nor the date a crime report was processed

The total number of offences cleared during a reference period is included, regardless of whether the offence was recorded in the current or a previous reference period. It is therefore possible that the number of offences cleared for a particular offence may be greater than the number recorded for that period.

The number of motor vehicles recovered during the reference period includes motor vehicles reported stolen within, and prior to, the reference period.

Counting Methodology

The basic counting unit for police statistics is the victim. One unique offence is counted for each victim per incident (Offence Report); the number of offenders is irrelevant. The victim-based rule is applied regardless of the number of criminal acts in cases where a series of related criminal acts are committed against the same victim.



A victim is defined according to the type of offence and can be a person, organisation, premise or motor vehicle.

- Offences Against the Person: one offence of each unique statistical offence type is counted for each victim per incident (Offence Report) where a victim can be an individual person or an organisation.
- Offences Against Property: one offence of each unique statistical offence type is counted for each victim per incident (Offence Report) where a victim can be a person, organisation or place/premise, depending on the offence type. Premises victims can vary according to occupancy arrangements. For Stolen Motor Vehicles the victim is the motor vehicle.
- Fraud and Similar Offences: one offence of each unique statistical offence type is counted for each victim per incident (Offence Report) where a victim can be a person or an organisation.
- Other (Miscellaneous) Offences: one of each unique statistical offence is counted for each victim per incident (Offence Report) where a victim can be a person or an organisation.

Attempted murder is counted separately to murder; all other offence attempts are included in their respective offence types for counting purposes.

Counting rules for Tasmania Police statistics differ slightly from those used for the national Recorded Crime Victims Statistics (RCVS) publications. Tasmania Police counts one offence per offence type per victim per incident (Offence Report). In the RCVS, the most serious offence per national offence category per victim per incident (Offence Report) is counted. National offence categories are broader than Tasmania Police offence types. Tasmania Police counts cleared offences as offences cleared in the reporting period, regardless of when the offence was reported. In the RCVS, cleared offences are counted as offences reported in the reporting period that have been cleared at a set date after the recording of the offence.